



## A Greener Today For a Brighter Tomorrow

**T**he Brightside St. Louis Demonstration Garden, located at Kingshighway and Shenandoah in South City, educates the public about the best environmentally sustainable practices to implement in yards and neighborhood gardens throughout the region. Using plants that are native to Missouri wetland, glade, prairie and woodland habitats, visitors learn about the site conditions where certain plants thrive.

Although the soils in suburban and urban landscapes have been dramatically altered due to development, homeowners can find areas of their yard that have conditions similar to these habitats. When a gardener understands how to match plant species to the habitat where that plant is naturally found, they create a functional and sustainable landscape. Plants that are matched to their natural growing conditions reduce the need for supplemental watering, fertilizers and pesticides. Traditional landscapes include exotic plants and turf grass lawns which require a great deal of resources to maintain.

While some may like the artificial appearance of a green lawn, it provides little, if any, benefit to wildlife. On the other hand, native plants are important food and shelter sources for beneficial wildlife species such as birds, bees, and butterflies along with offering four seasons of interest. Thus, the presence of native plants in urban landscaping is essential to maintaining the natural biodiversity of our region.



Photo by Noppadol Paothong



Photo by Noppadol Paothong

Beyond the wildlife and aesthetics, the garden's design addresses stormwater issues. For years, the prevailing stormwater management strategy has been to capture, pipe, and send runoff out-of-sight and downstream. Unfortunately, this approach has led to erosion, flash flooding, water pollution and lost aquatic habitats in many of our communities. To combat this problem, sustainable stormwater management practices were installed at the garden so that not one drop of rainwater leaves the site to enter the city's sewer system. This type of design is called Low-Impact Development (LID) and it uses natural processes to manage stormwater as close to the source as possible. LID practices at the garden include a cistern and rain barrels to capture rainwater from the onsite building's roof. The demonstration garden is also one of the few places in the region that has three different types of permeable surfaces (asphalt, concrete, and pavers) located throughout the site in addition to a rain garden and bioswale to collect and store stormwater. These onsite practices enhance water quality by filtering out sediment and pollutants from stormwater and allowing it to soak into the ground to replenish groundwater flow to urban streams.

The next time you're out and about in St. Louis, be sure to stop by the Brightside Demonstration Garden to see how it is connecting residents and visitors to the natural environment, cultivating environmental stewardship, and educating the public about sustainable landscaping practices.

*By: Angie Weber, Community Conservation Planner*

# Jay Henges Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

1100 Antire Road, High Ridge, MO 63049 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/299](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/299)



From the east/St. Louis  
I-44 west to Beaumont Antire Road, exit 269. Left over I-44 to Antire Road. Right on Antire. One hundred feet to entrance. Left into driveway.

From the west/Eureka  
I-44 east to Beaumont Antire Road, exit 269. Follow exit lane around to top.

## HOURS:

May 1–August 31

Wednesday: 1–7:30 p.m.

Thursday–Sunday: 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

September 1–April 30

Wednesday–Sunday: 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Programs are free. Call **636-938-9548** or email [henges.range@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:henges.range@mdc.mo.gov) with your name and phone number to sign up for a program requiring registration. If calling, leave a detailed message on ext. 1755. Reservations will be accepted beginning at 12 a.m. on the day of registration. You will be contacted for confirmation. Up to two reservations are allowed per registration; groups should contact the range for more information. If you are unable to attend, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

## Whitetail Deer – Recovery After the Shot

Sept 4 • Wednesday • 6–7:30 p.m.

*(Ages 11 and up)*

You've made your shot on the whitetail deer. What's next? How do you locate your animal? Learn how to evaluate the

## Great Outdoors Day

Sept 28 • Saturday • 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

The Missouri Department of Conservation and St. Louis County Parks are co-sponsoring a Great Outdoors Day on September 28 in celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day. The event will include displays from conservation and outdoor organizations, an Operation Game Thief exhibit, archery and air gun shooting activities, and cannon netting demonstrations. The event will be held near the Jay Henges Range on Antire-Beaumont Road directly across from the entrance to the Beaumont Scout Reservation.

Shooters visiting the range can shoot for one hour on the rifle/pistol range or one round of trap for free. Also, for those first time shooters, we will have firearms, ammunition and safety items on hand.

reaction to the shot, identify the source of the blood, and learn to track and recover in a field exercise. (Reservations begin at 12 a.m. on August 4.)

## Women's Basic Handgun, Part 1 and 2

Sept 5 and 7 • Thursday • 6–8 p.m.

and Saturday 8–9:30 a.m.

*(Ages 16 and up)*

This program will include handgun operation, shooting fundamentals, safety, maintenance, and safe storage. We start with a classroom session Thursday evening, then have a live-fire session Saturday morning. Equipment and ammunition will be provided. You may bring your own handgun and ammunition to the Saturday morning session. Anyone under age 18 must be accompanied by an adult. (Reservations begin at 12 a.m. on August 5.)

## How to Sight-in Your Rifle

Sept 11 • Wednesday • 5:30–7 p.m.

*(Ages 11 and up)*

Let's be prepared for fall hunting seasons with an accurate rifle. We will go through the process of sighting in your rifle with either open or telescopic sights. (Reservations begin at 12 a.m. on August 11.)

## Basic Archery

Sept 12 • Thursday • 6–7:30 p.m.

*(Families)*

Learn the fundamentals of shooting the bow and arrow based on the Missouri National Archery in the School Program (MoNASP). This is a fun program for the family, ages fourth grade and up. All equipment will be provided. (Reservations begin at 12 a.m. on August 12.)

## Trigger Time–Handgun

Sept 14 • Saturday • 8:30–9:30 a.m.

*(Ages 18 and up)*

Trigger Time is "hands-on" individual instruction from one of our highly qualified staff. Participants are required to provide their own handguns and ammunition, at least 100 rounds. This program is not appropriate for beginners. (Reservations begin at 12 a.m. on August 14.)

## Youth .22 Rifle

Sept 21 • Saturday • 8–9:30 a.m.

*(Ages 9-15)*

Young people who have never had experience shooting .22 rifles are invited to participate in this session. Learn safety and the proper techniques of shooting .22 rimfire rifles in a safe environment. Firearms, ammunition, and safety equipment are provided. (Reservations begin at 12 a.m. on August 21.)



# Busch Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/270](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/270)

## Deer Calling

Sept 5 • Thursday • 6–8 p.m.

*(Ages 10 and up)*

It is time to start brushing up on your deer calling skills. This program offers the opportunity to understand how deer communicate. Learn how to make calls that will attract deer closer to you. We will discuss four basic deer calls that can be used during the rut. Bring any calls you may want to use. This program will take place at the August A. Busch Conservation Area Regional Office classrooms. Children ages 10-16 must be accompanied by an adult. (Reservations begin August 7.)



## Effective Wingshooting for the Hunter

Sept 7 • Saturday • 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

*(Ages 15 and up)*

This program is designed to teach hunters to be more proficient using non-toxic shot. Participants will learn about wounding rates in waterfowl, performance differences between non-toxic and lead shot shells, distance estimation, how to improve wingshooting, and more. Bring your own shotgun and different chokes. This program will start at the August A. Busch Conservation Area Regional Office classroom. Ages 15 and 16 must be accompanied by an adult. (Registration will begin on August 8.)

## Basic Archery

Sept 10 • Tuesday • 6–8 p.m.

*(Ages 10 and up)*

Looking for a new outdoor activity? Then join our experts for an introductory archery program. This is designed for families, or anyone, wanting to learn the fundamentals of archery. We will cover types of bows, stance, and techniques to get you on target. All equipment will be supplied. Ages 10-16 must be accompanied by an adult. (Reservations begin August 12.)

## Basic Trap

Sept 11 and 12 • Wednesday •

6–8 p.m. and • Thursday • 6–8 p.m.

*(Ages 13 and up)*

Join us for the exciting sport of trap shooting. This program is designed for those that have experience with shotguns, want to improve their skills, and learn the finer points of 16 yard American Trap. Wednesday will be the classroom portion, located at the August A. Busch Conservation Area Regional Office classrooms. On Thursday we will meet at the Shooting Range. Bring your own firearms, or we will provide one for you. Ages 13-16 must be accompanied by an adult. (Reservations begin August 22.)

## Intermediate Handgun

Sept 14 • Saturday • 7:30-9:30 a.m.

*(Ages 18 and up)*

This program is designed for handgun owners to sharpen their shooting skills. Come experience some one on one instruction with one of our highly qualified instructors. Participants are required to bring their own handguns and ammunition. Program will take place at the August A. Busch Shooting Range. (Reservations begin August 15.)



From I-64/40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on Hwy D for approximately 5 miles. The area entrance is on the south side of Hwy D.

## HOURS:

December 1–March 31

Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

April 1–November 30

Monday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday: 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Tuesday: 2–8 p.m.

Programs are free. Call **636-441-4554** to register Monday through Friday 8 a.m.–5 p.m. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

## Family .22 Rifle Shooting

Sept 21 • Saturday • 7:30-9:30 a.m.

*(Ages 8 and up)*

This program is designed to get families out to the range to do some target shooting without the overwhelming noise during public hours. Our highly qualified instructors will teach safety, parts of the rifle, eye dominance, aiming, and range rules. All ammunition and firearms will be provided. Ages 8-16 must be accompanied by an adult. Program will take place at the August A. Busch Shooting Range. (Reservations begin August 22.)

# Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/271](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/271)



From I-44 east take the Watson Road exit and turn left on Geyer. Cross over the bridge and turn left on Cragwold Road. Follow one mile to the entrance.

## HOURS:

Building: Tuesday–Saturday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Area: Daily: 8 a.m.–8 p.m. DST  
8 a.m.–6 p.m. CST

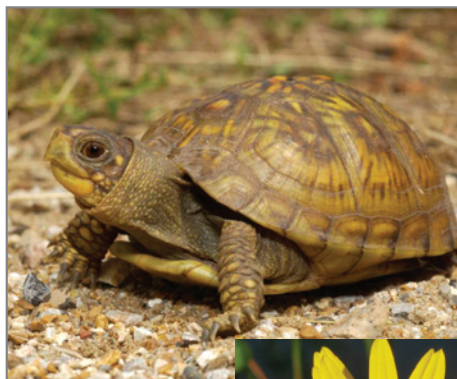
Programs are free. Call **314-301-1500** to register. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

## Spectacular Spiders

Sept 17 • Tuesday • 9:30-11 a.m.

(Ages 6 and up)

Spiders! If you watch one, maybe it will spin a web and catch a fly, or maybe it will sit still on a flower to ambush a bee, or maybe it will sidle up close to a little bug and jump up to pounce on it. There are all kinds of spiders, except vegetarians – they all have to catch their dinner one way or another. Join us to learn more about the interesting lives of these eight-legged hunters. If possible, this program will include a spider hike so please dress for the weather! (Reservations begin September 3.)



## You and Me under the Canopy

Sept 18 • Wednesday • 10-11 a.m.

(Ages birth-8)

Families, meet in the nature center lobby at 10 a.m. for a “nature” adventure. Make sure to dress for the weather because we won’t be in the building long. Everyone will hike with the naturalist to a special place in the forest and enjoy a nature story under the canopy. Reservations are not required and siblings are welcome! (In case of inclement weather the program will be shortened to 30 minutes.)



## 24 Turtles for Tots

Sept 24 • Tuesday • 9:30–11 a.m.

(Ages 3-6)

They’re on land! They’re in the water! Join us as we learn about these reptiles in Missouri. Then we will play a game to help us understand the struggles of being a turtle. We will also take a hike to see if we can spot some of these beloved creatures as they begin to prepare for fall’s chilly weather. (Reservations begin September 10.)

## Pollinator Power!

Sept 25 • Wednesday •

9:30–11:30 AM

(Ages 8-11)

Without a little help from their friends, the pollinators, most plants can’t reproduce. We’ll delve into pollination, parts of flowers, types of seeds, and seed dispersal through games and hands-on exploration. Outside, we’ll see what’s happening in the garden and try and catch some pollinators in action! (Reservations begin September 11.)





# Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center

11715 Cragwold Road, Kirkwood, MO 63122 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/271](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/271)

## Powder Valley Hallway Exhibit Society of Independent Artists

Powder Valley welcomes the return of the Society of Independent Artists. For the past 75 years the Society of Independent Artists has provided an avenue for the promotion of fellowship through monthly meetings and congenial competition among its artists. Several times a year members exhibit watercolor, acrylic, and oil paintings at locations around the St. Louis area. Through the years, many of its members have established notable careers in the world of art. Other members simply put aside time in their busy days for a short escape to a haven where ideas and visions connect in forms, shapes and colors on paper or canvas.



*We are a national leader in  
conservation.*

## Forest Park Office

5595 Grand Drive, St. Louis, MO 63112 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/10254](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/10254)



From I-44 take Kingshighway north to West Pine Blvd, turn left. Follow West Pine to Lindell, turn left. Continue on Lindell past Union Drive to Cricket, turn left. Take first right onto Grand Ave. The visitor's center is on the right.

### **HOURS:**

Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Programs are free. Call **314-877-1309** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

### **Discover Nature by Bike**

Sept 24 • Tuesday • 3:30–5 p.m.  
(8 and up)

There's so much to see at Forest Park, it would take all day on foot! Exquisite landscaping, native grasses, wildflowers, and wildlife abound. Biking brings it all straight to you. Intended for beginning to moderate riders; we will begin our journey at the Visitor's Center. So, what are you waiting for? Dust off that bike, bring your helmet, water bottle and enthusiasm! Call 314-877-1309 to reserve a spot for the ride. Don't have a bike? Call Chris at City Cycling Tours by September 23 at 314-616-5724. (Ride reservations begin September 3.)



# Columbia Bottom Conservation Area

801 Strodtman Road, St. Louis, MO 63138 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/298](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/298)



From I-270 north, take the Riverview Drive exit (last Missouri exit); go north 2.8 miles. Riverview Drive becomes Columbia Bottom Road at its intersection with Larimore Road. The entrance is on the right-hand side.

## **HOURS:**

Building: Wednesday–Friday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Saturday–Sunday: 8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Area: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset except authorized activities.

Programs are free. Call **314-877-6014** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

## **Autumn Senior Picnic**

Sept 16 • Monday • 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.  
(Senior Adults)

Visit Columbia Bottom and see how the prairies and fields have recovered from the June flood. The prairies may not be as tall and full as we usually expect, but they are recovering nicely from their time under water. We will spend some time at the Visitor Center before heading out to look for butterflies, birds, and blooming wildflowers. Bring a sack lunch to eat in one of our covered pavilions. Water and dessert will be provided. Meet at the Visitor Center. (Reservations begin September 1.)

## **Driftwood Art**

Sept 18 • Wednesday • 3–4:30 p.m.  
(Families)

How does the saying go? When life gives you lemons... In this case we have driftwood, left here by the mighty Missouri and Mississippi rivers! This wood has potential to be made into anything your mind can imagine: from boats to great works of art. Join us as we transform driftwood into our very own works of art. (Reservations begin September 4.)

## **Harvest Moon Over the Confluence**

Sept 20 • Friday • 7–8:30 p.m.  
(Ages 6 and up)

As the sun sets over the fields and prairies, the “Harvest Moon” rises over the confluence signaling the “night shift creatures” to venture forth. We will stop, look and listen to discover evidence of their activities as we walk the paved, wooded path from the slough to the confluence. Meet at the slough parking lot “M” about 4 miles from the front gate. (Reservations begin September 6.)

## **Confluence Campout!**

Sept 28 to 29 • Saturday • 4 p.m. – Sunday • 11:30 a.m.

(Families)

It’s not just any night you can camp near two of the largest rivers in the world. That’s what makes this camping adventure so different. Casting, archery, knot tying and wildlife explorations are what make it fun too. Registration packets are available August 30. Completed reservation forms are due September 13. So pack your tent, or borrow one of ours. It’s time, once again, for Confluence Campout!

## **Prairie Day in the Confluence**

Sept 14 • Saturday • 10 a.m.–2:30 p.m.  
(All Ages)

Missouri prairies are more than just a sea of grass with long root systems. These diverse natural communities contain hundreds of native grasses and forbs with a few shrubs and trees mixed in. These plants support thousands of different species of insects. Not only do many of these insects serve as a food source for a huge variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals, they also pollinate plants that are wonderful for humans to see, smell, consume and use.

On Saturday, Sept 14, let’s celebrate prairies at two different sites in the Confluence. From 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., visit Fort Belle Fontaine Park to learn about the wonders of an upland prairie. Enjoy a guided walk then stay for a hot dog lunch over an open campfire. (Advanced registration required for County Parks; call 314-615-5270 or visit <http://www.stlouisco.com/ParksandRecreation>.)

Next, take a short drive to Columbia Bottom Conservation Area to experience a tallgrass prairie during an open house from 12:30–2:30 p.m. There will be short guided hikes every 30 minutes, exploring the prairie and information tables displaying prairie wildlife. In Partnership with: Friends of Fort Belle Fontaine Park and St. Louis County Parks. (Reservations not required for Columbia Bottom CA.)

# August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area

2360 Hwy D, St. Charles, MO 63304 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/300](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/300)

## You Mean I Can Cook That? Outdoors?

Sept 14 • Saturday • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

(Ages 8 and up–Audience with Disabilities)

Expand your outdoor experience and learn to cook outdoors with everyday supplies like aluminum foil and steel cans for delicious backyard and camping meals.

Work with local Boy Scouts for practice and demonstrations setting up tents and organizing a camp site. We are seeking participants with disabilities and one support person per participant. No siblings or non-target audience members please. Site is wheelchair accessible. (Reservations begin August 30.)

## Falling Leaves

Sept 21 • Saturday • 9–9:45 a.m.

(Ages 3-5)

Did you know that trees prepare themselves for winter? Your preschooler will have fun learning about why leaves change color and fall to the ground through a game, a craft, and exploring the forest. (Reservations begin September 6.)



*Healthy fish, forests and wildlife make our communities better*



From I-64/40 take Hwy 94 south to Hwy D; turn west on D for approximately two miles. The area entrance is on the north side of Hwy D.

### HOURS:

Building: Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Area: Daily: 4 a.m.–10 p.m.

Programs are free. Call **636-441-4554** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

## What's Hot in the Nature Shop!

**What's HOT in the NATURE SHOP!**

**SAVE 20%**  
SEPTEMBER 1–OCTOBER 31

Whether you hunt, fish, or forage, both books offer imaginative, fresh ideas for turning your harvest into a mouth-watering feast.

Whether you are a birder or hunter, gardener or fisherman, you will find something in the nature shop that will help you enjoy nature. The September and October special features two of our bestselling books. You can save 20% when you purchased Missouri's Wild Mushrooms by Maxine Stone or Cooking Wild in Missouri by Bernadette Dryden. Stock up now for holiday gift-giving.

You can find the Nature Shop online at [mdcnatureshop.com](http://mdcnatureshop.com) or at the following St. Louis Region locations:

August A. Busch Memorial Conservation Area  
636-441-4554

Columbia Bottom Conservation Area  
314-877-6014

Powder Valley Conservation Nature Center  
314-301-1500



# Rockwoods Reservation

2751 Glencoe Road, Wildwood, MO 63038 • [mdc.mo.gov/node/272](http://mdc.mo.gov/node/272)



From I-44 take Hwy 109 north 4 miles to Woods Avenue; left on Woods Avenue, then immediately right on Glencoe Road. From Manchester Road take Hwy 109 south 2 miles to Woods Avenue; right on Woods Avenue, then immediately right on Glencoe Road.

## HOURS:

Building: Monday–Friday: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Area: Sunrise to one-half hour after sunset except authorized activities.

Programs are free. Call **636-458-2236** to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list. Interpretive services are available for those with hearing loss with 5 days notice.

## Poisonous and Venomous Things – Scout Discovery Table

Sept 14 • Saturday • 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

*(All Ages)*

Come and learn about the poisonous and venomous plants and animals found in Missouri. We will be looking at and learning about snakes, spiders, bees, wasps, hornets, scorpions, mushrooms and even poison ivy! There will even be live venomous snakes on display. Feel free to come at any time during the four-hour period and maybe even stay for a hike or picnic at Rockwoods. (No reservation necessary.)



## Hike at LaBarque Creek Conservation Area

Sept 28 • Saturday • 9 a.m.–1 p.m.

*(Adults)*

Join us for a three-mile hike at LaBarque Creek, one of our newest Conservation Areas and designated Natural Area. We will see LaBarque Creek for which the area is named and hike the hills to the highest point before returning to the parking lot. We will visit several small sandstone glades and sandstone outcrops that have been exposed to intermittent streams. Difficulty = Strenuous due to elevation change. (Reservations begin September 13.)

## Fall Hiking Series–Hiking in Nature for Fun and Fitness

*Adults and Families age 6 and up*

Sept 7 • Saturday • 9–10 a.m. = Trail Among the Trees, Rockwoods Reservation – 1.5 miles

Sept 21 • Saturday • 9 a.m.–Noon = Lime Kiln Trail, Rockwoods Reservation – 3.2 miles

Oct 12 • Saturday • 9 a.m.–1 p.m. = Clark Trail, Weldon Spring C.A. – 5.3 miles

Oct 19 Saturday • 9 a.m.–2 p.m. = Howell Island Trail, Howell Island C.A. – 7.0 miles

Gear up for a fall adventure by logging miles to shape up your hiking legs, break in boots, learn new skills and discover hiking trails close to home. Team up with our naturalists to experience fall at its finest. We'll send you a letter with further details after you make your reservation. You can sign up for just one or all of the hikes. Effort = Moderate (Reservations begin August 23)